

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Progress and Challenges

Q.1 Do the findings of the evaluation broadly reflect your views about services for people with learning disabilities/carer?

Yes No

Please provide any comments, evidence and/or examples here

Services have improved as a result of "same as you?" but there is still room for improvement.

Eg.

- Gentleman from long stay institutional care on the mainland has been resettled on the islands with his own tenancy and support staff and vastly improved lifestyle.
- Much wider awareness of people with learning disabilities and related issues across all sectors of working.
- More awareness of health issues.

Q. 2 Can you give examples, either locally or nationally, of what you think has worked well over the last 10 years of *The same as you?*

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

- Increase in dignity and respect. Seeing the person and not the disability.
- Introduction of Local Area Co-ordinators for the area.
- Closing of institutions.

Q. 3 Can you give examples of issues in current work and/or policies that still need to be addressed?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

- There are very few people with Learning Disabilities who are getting meaningful work placements.
- There is a transition policy in place which is slowly beginning to be implemented. Unfortunately those people who have already left school but are still young adults have received a very poor transition and there is very little in place for planning the next step once they leave college.
- Local commissioning of challenging behaviour services are "ad hoc" at best.
- Accessible communication.

Good Practice – Organisations

Q. 4 Can you provide examples of what you have done over the last 10 years, within your organisation, to improve services and access to services within your local area?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

- Awareness-raising of issues with implementation.
- Training sessions for a broad range of staff – social care / teachers / voluntary sector / nurses / students etc.
- Advice and support to day centres / residential services.
- Promote the work of the Local Area Co-ordinators.

Good Practice - Individuals

Q.5 What have you done, as an individual, to make positive changes within your local area?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

- Given training sessions on:-

Communication

Challenging Behaviour

Epilepsy

LD awareness in staff induction training.

- Individual support to carers and families.
- Advice for fellow professionals in multi-disciplinary arenas.
- Attended national training courses to keep updated.
- Involvement with national groups

Future Priorities - Healthcare

Q.6 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities have access to better and more appropriate healthcare?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

- Continued encouragement to GP's to ensure regular health checks are carried out.
- Advice regarding hospital admission policy / procedures.
- Continued encouragement for accessible information (in both leaflet and signage) at all health establishments.
- More use of life planning.
- Advice and encouragement for carers regarding health matters.
- The local model of Learning Disability Collaborative Manager has been a success and may work well in other areas. The post has helped to increase awareness and has drawn together many

agencies / professionals to procure hospital policies and a Local Enhanced Service agreement for GP's.

- Continued education of primary and secondary care staff regarding all issues pertaining to people with learning disabilities.

Future Priorities - Education

Q.7 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities have access to better educational opportunities?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

Education provision here is quite good. However, there seems to be insufficient training for teachers and support staff in secondary education where there are higher pupil to staff ratios and less individualised programmes and attention given.

Future Priorities – Independent Living

Q.8 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities are able to live independently?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

The biggest problem on the Western Isles is the lack of carers / potential carers and lack of suitable / appropriate housing.

Future Priorities – Employment

Q.9 What still needs to be done to ensure that people with learning disabilities have access to better employment opportunities?

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

- The jobs need to be there.
- Flexible support and flexible funding.
- More job coaches.

Future Priorities

**Q.10 What other future priorities do we need to focus on?
(Please list these in order of importance with the most important first)**

Please provide any comments and/or examples here

1. Accessible information across all agencies.
2. More involvement of people with learning disabilities and carers in development of services and more say and choice / control over their own lives.
3. Public sector employers to employ more people with learning disabilities.
4. Appropriate support on leaving the criminal justice system.

Thank you for taking the time to read the consultation document and taking the time to respond to the question. Your continued input and support is vital in ensuring that we continue to close the inequality gap that people with a learning disability face daily.

All completed questionnaires should be returned to Sarah Grant either by e-mail or at the address below. The closing date for responses is 30th September 2012.

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